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LETTER DATED 7 FEBRUARY 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the letter of the letter dated 6 February 1994 from the President of the Republic of Turkey, His Excellency Mr. Suleyman Demirel, addressed to the heads of State of some countries which are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the European Union and the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia concerning the recent Serbian attack on the civilian targets in Saravejo.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Inal BATU
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 6 February 1994 from the President of the Republic of Turkey to certain heads of State

I was shocked to hear of the resumption of the shelling of Sarajevo, killing many innocent civilians and maiming hundreds. The fact that it was carried out on a Saturday, when families go out for shopping, and that the target was the market place makes this heinous act all the more criminal and necessitates immediate and resolute measures against the aggressors.

The attack is yet another example of the blatant violation of international law and in particular all the relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations on the question of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Yesterday's indiscriminate shelling confirms once again that the innocent inhabitants of Sarajevo are left at the mercy of the Serbian aggressors.

The attack is also the latest display of the strangulation of Sarajevo, a so-called "safe area" under United Nations resolutions. It has become imperative for the international community to take military action against the aggressors in order to put an end to the bloodshed and to force them to accept a just and lasting peace.

As you would recall, the NATO Council of Foreign Ministers adopted a decision in August last year, by which they agreed that the alliance would take military action if the "strangulation" in the United Nations-declared safe areas in Bosnia, including Sarajevo, continued.

The current situation in Sarajevo actually goes beyond that of "strangulation" and requires immediate military action.

Therefore, it is high time that the necessary decision for military action against the aggressor is taken and is implemented by NATO in order to put an end to the ongoing human tragedy and suffering.

Moreover, the United Nations Security Council should also adopt a decision for the immediate lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia and Herzegovina on the basis of the recent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. This will allow the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina to use their inherent right to defend themselves.

I appeal for your Excellency's personal support in initiating immediate action on these two options.

With my best regards.

Suleyman DEMIREL
President of the
Republic of Turkey